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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-seventh session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Rodrigo **Yáñez Pilgrim** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

Addendum

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

(Item 3)

Progress and impact assessment of management improvement measures

1. At its 4th meeting, on 13 June 2007, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on progress and impact assessment of management improvement measures (A/62/69). A representative of the Department of Management introduced the report and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of it.

Discussion

2. Several delegations noted the importance and usefulness of the report and welcomed the update of critical management reform efforts, while one delegation cautioned that it should not duplicate and summarize the contents of other documents.

3. Delegations noted the progress on reforms in the area of information and communications technology, expressing the view that knowledge management is particularly important and that information should be shared systematically. It was also noted that further and substantial investment was needed in information and communications technology systems and that the investment of funds should be accompanied by improvements in management and administration, by, for example,

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saving staff hours. Concern was expressed about the Secretariat's slow progress in placing all official documents, in all official languages, on the Official Document System (ODS). It was noted that ODS should be made more user-friendly.

4. Several delegations noted the progress made in the area of budgetary and financial management practices, which were referred to as the "spinal column" of the Organization. Delegates welcomed the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards and noted the tremendous impact such standards would have on the United Nations system. Responding to questions relating to the status of the Secretariat's implementation of the Standards, the representative of the Department of Management explained that a steering committee and project team had been established and the work was proceeding accordingly.

5. In response to questions as to why the issues of human resources management, enterprise resource planning and procurement reform, which were scheduled for consideration during the second part of the resumed sixty-first session of the General Assembly, had not been taken up during that session, the Secretary of the Committee noted that, given the Secretary-General's proposal to restructure the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and taking into account the impact that Member States' decisions thereon could have on the other reform areas, it was decided to postpone consideration of reports on those issues.

6. The view was expressed that the *United Nations Secretariat First Consolidated Report 2005* had not been published as an official parliamentary document for General Assembly consideration and therefore should not be referenced in this or any other official document. The Secretary of the Committee noted that the *United Nations Secretariat Consolidated Report 2006* would be published in all official languages for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General.**